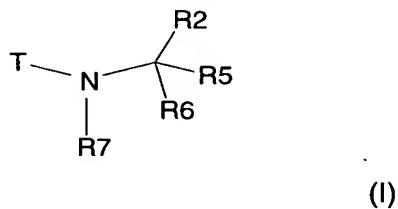


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

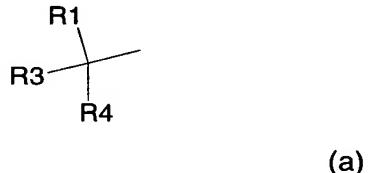
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A process for the epoxidation of an alkene, which process comprises reacting an alkene with an oxidising agent in the presence of a catalyst, characterised in that the catalyst is an amine of formula (I):



wherein T represents hydrogen or a moiety of formula (a):



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ each independently represents hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted aryl group, heterocycl or an optionally substituted aralkyl group wherein the optional substituents for the above mentioned groups are selected from up to three of alkyl, aryl, heterocycl, hydroxy, alkoxy or a group NR^sR^t, wherein R^s and R^t each independently represent hydrogen, alkyl or alkylcarbonyl, and R⁷ represents hydrogen, alkyl, aryl or aralkyl;

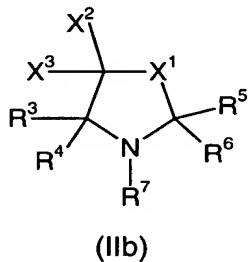
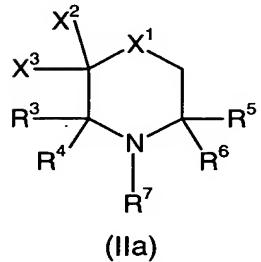
or T represents a moiety of formula (a) wherein R¹ together with R² represents an optionally substituted alkylene chain comprising 2 to 6 carbon atoms, the alkylene chain being optionally interrupted with an oxygen atom or a group NRP, wherein RP is hydrogen or alkyl, and wherein optional substituents for any carbon atom of the alkylene chain are selected from hydroxy, alkoxy, oxo or a group NR^sR^t, wherein R^s and R^t each independently represent hydrogen, alkyl or alkylcarbonyl, or substituents on any two adjacent carbon atoms of the chain together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form an alicyclic, aryl or heterocyclic ring; and R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are as defined above.

2. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein in the compound of formula (I) T represents a moiety of the formula (a) and R¹ together with R² represents an optionally substituted alkylene chain comprising 2 or 3 carbon atoms.

3. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein in the compound of formula (I) T represents a moiety of the formula (a), R¹ together with R² represents an optionally substituted alkylene chain as defined in claim 1, R⁵ represents optionally substituted alkyl, an optionally substituted aryl group, heterocyclyl or an optionally substituted aralkyl group, wherein substituents for R¹, R², and R⁵ are selected from up to three of alkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl, hydroxy or alkoxy, R⁷ represents hydrogen, alkyl, aryl or aralkyl, and R³, R⁴ and R⁶ each independently represents hydrogen.

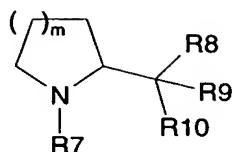
4. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 3, wherein in the compound of formula (I) R⁵ is a diphenylmethyl group.

5. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is an amine of formula (IIa) or (IIb):



wherein R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are as defined in claim 1, X¹ is CH₂, O or NX⁴, wherein X⁴ represents hydrogen, alkyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy carbonyl, aryl, or aralkyl, and either R³ and R⁴ are as defined in claim 1, X² independently represents any value of R², and X³ independently represents any value of R³, or X² and R³ each independently represent hydrogen, and X³ and R⁴ together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form an alicyclic or heterocyclic ring.

6. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is an amine of formula (IIc):



(IIc)

wherein R⁷ is as defined in claim 1, R⁸ and R⁹ each independently represents an alkyl or an aryl group, R¹⁰ represents hydrogen, hydroxy or alkoxy, and m is an integer 1 or 2.

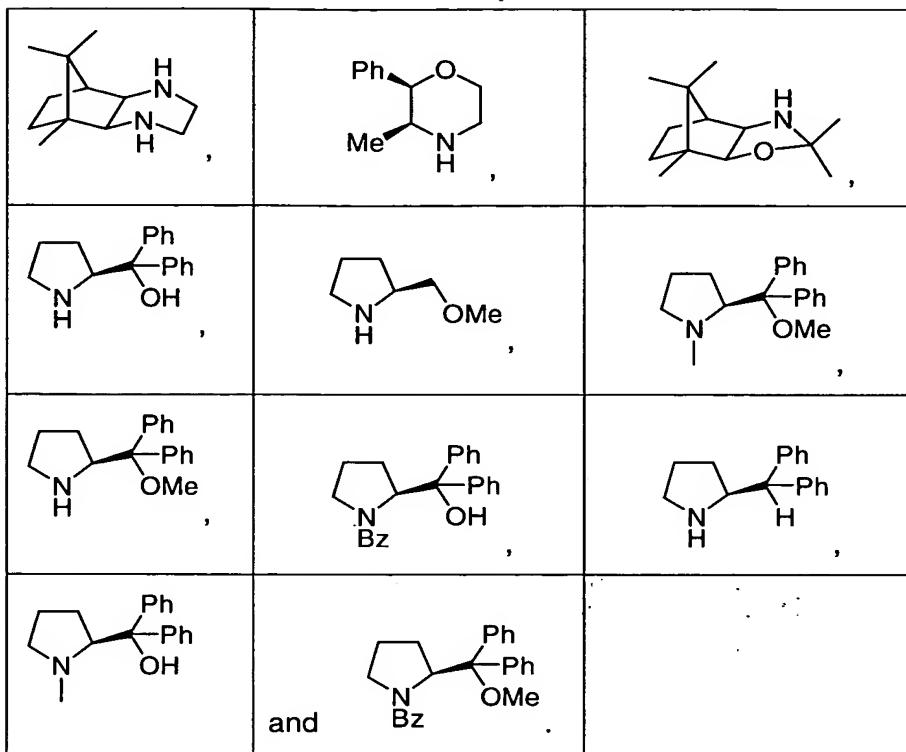
7. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 6, wherein in the compound of formula (I) R⁷ represents hydrogen.

8. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 6, wherein in the compound of formula (I) R⁸ and R⁹ each independently represents phenyl.

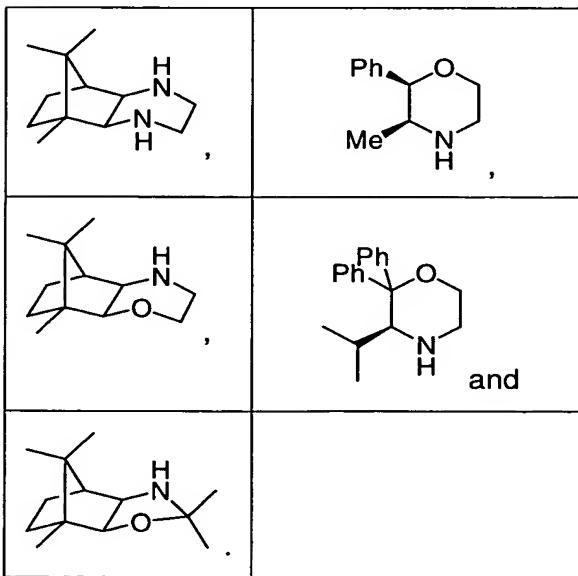
9. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 6, wherein in the compound of formula (I) R¹⁰ represents hydrogen.

10. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 6, wherein in the compound of formula (I) m is the integer 1.

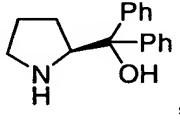
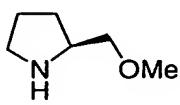
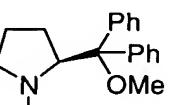
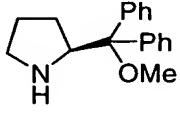
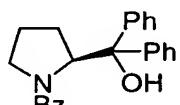
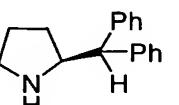
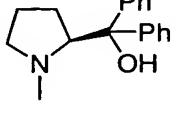
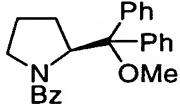
11. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is selected from the group consisting of:



12. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 5, wherein the compound of formulae (IIa) and (IIb) is selected from the group consisting of:



13. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 6, wherein the compound of formulae (IIc) is selected from the group consisting of:

		
		
 and		

14. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is (S)-(-)-2-(diphenylhydroxymethyl)pyrrolidine or (S)-(-)-2-(diphenylmethyl)pyrrolidine.

15. (original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the oxidising agent is a nucleophilic oxidising agent.

16. (original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a base.

17. (original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the oxidising agent is a mixture of Oxone® (KHSO₅) and sodium bicarbonate.

18. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 16, wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a second base.

19. (original) A process according to claim 18, wherein the second base is pyridine, 2, 6-lutidine or triethylamine.

20. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the compound of formula (I) to the alkene is in the range of from 1 to 10 mol %.

21. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the compound of formula (I) to the alkene is 5 mol %.

22. (new) A process according to claim 1, wherein the alkene is a prochiral alkene.

23. (new) A process according to claim 16, wherein the base is sodium bicarbonate.